PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

President : I have an announcement to make. Under Rule 3 (1) of the Travancore Legislative Rules, I have nominated Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai and Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar to the Panel of Chairmen for the current session of the Council.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE AGRICULTURAL BOARD.

President : I have one more announcement to make. The House remembers that it has been decided by Government to constitute what is called the Agricultural Board. Some money was provided in the current year's budget for that purpose and it has received the assent of both the Houses. Government are now engaged on the constitution of that Board. The House will remember that the other House as well as this has a right to elect 5 members to the Agricultural Board. I have therefore to fix a day and time for the conduct of election. I decide that the election do take place tomorrow after the termination of the business of the House. It will be presided over by one of the Panel of Chairmen and the method of election will be by ballot. These five representatives of the House on the Agricultural Board will be nominated entirely by the non-official members of the House. The official members will take no part in the election.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 1,10,450 for

(i) the purchase of a dredger for the Alleppey port Rs. 1,10,000

(ii) the appointment of an additional draftsman in the Chief Engineers's Office Rs. 450.

The House is well aware that for the last two years the accretion of sand near the Alleppey pier has been of great concern to Government and they carried on hand dredging for those two years to keep the port open from the sand accretion. It has now become impossible to carry on that satisfactorily and also it is very expensive and therefore it was decided in consultation with the Port Officer that the only means of keeping the pier free from sand accretion is by means of a dredger. Therefore I move for a grant of Rs. 1,10,000 for the purchase of a dredger.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : Can the Government give us an assurance that this dredger will not share the same fate of the weighing machine at Arukutty ?

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